



Office of Emergency Management

Release date: 10/20/20

Public Information Officer: DeAnne Gallegos

Release Number: SJC_028

Email: pio@sanjuancolorado.us

PRESS RELEASE San Juan County, Colorado

SAN JUAN COUNTY: The Office of Emergency Management, Jim Donovan and San Juan County Sheriff Bruce Conrad met with the US Forest Service Type III Incident Management Team late morning of Tuesday October 20th to coordinate emergency planning. The Ice Fire grew over 500 acres overnight. The Type III IMT stated that multiple types of air resources will be used on the Ice Fire today.

Silverton, San Juan County is preparing residents for an evacuation plan of READY, SET, GO!

Wildfire conditions can change rapidly and you must be prepared as a citizen to take action.

The San Juan County Sheriff's Office works closely with fire agencies and other counties to determine if residents need to leave an area for safety. Conditions can change suddenly.

The Level 1: Get Ready means prepare to be evacuated from the area. Think more than 48 hours.

The Level 2: Be Set which means a short notice of evacuation is likely. Think 24-28 hours.

The Level 3: Go! Is immediate evacuation from the area. Think less than an hour.

You may not receive a Level 2 "Be Set" warning before you are ordered to Level 3 "Go! Evacuate now."

Due to COVID-19, make sure to pack face coverings for every member of the household, as well as hand sanitizer if you have it.

SILVERTON IS IN Level 1: Get Ready

Monitor public safety and news sites for more information and start preparing for possible evacuation.

Consider accommodations for children, seniors, people with mobility limitations, pets, horses, and livestock. People who need help or more time to evacuate — people with disabilities, people with small children, people with medical conditions and people with large animals — should consider evacuating at Level 1.

To "Get Ready" follow these Pre-Evacuation Preparation Steps:



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Pack a Go Kit

Assemble your valuables, essential medications and medical equipment. Include important documents such as passports, birth certificates and insurance information. Make sure you have your computer and phone, a credit card and copies of personal items such as family photos. Have clothes and personal items packed in a “go bag”

Inside

- Shut windows and doors
- Remove flammable window shades, curtains and close metal shutters.
- Remove lightweight curtains.
- Move flammable furniture to the center of the room, away from windows and doors..
- Leave your lights on so firefighters can see your house under smoky conditions.
- If time allows, take a video of your home for insurance purposes, focusing on expensive items and serial numbers.

Outside

- Gather flammable items — patio furniture, children’s toys, doormats — from outside the house and bring them inside or put them in storage.
- Turn off propane tanks.
- Move propane BBQ appliances away from structures.
- Connect garden hoses to outside water valves or spigots for use by firefighters. Fill water buckets and place them around the house.
- Leave exterior lights on so your home is visible to firefighters in the smoke or darkness.
- Put your Go Kit in your vehicle.
- Back your car into the driveway with doors and windows closed. Carry your car keys with you.
- Have a ladder available and place it at the corner of the house for firefighters to quickly access your roof.
- Seal attic and ground vents with pre-cut plywood or commercial seals.
- Patrol your property and monitor the fire situation. Don’t wait for an evacuation order if you feel threatened.



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Animals/Pets

- Locate your pets and keep them nearby. Have food and water for pets ready for evacuation.
- Prepare animals for transport and consider moving them to a safe location early.

Neighbors

- Check on neighbors and make sure they are preparing to leave, especially neighbors who may need extra assistance, such as people with medical needs, people with disabilities, children, seniors.
- Exchange contact information to be able to keep in touch.

For more ideas about what to include in your Go Kit, visit [Ready.Gov](https://www.ready.gov)

Air Quality Update

Right now, the level is high. If you do not have visibility 5 miles away or the smoke is thick, or you have health conditions, you want to stay inside.

Anyone could have health effects at this level if you are exposed for 24 hours.

<https://www.purpleair.com/map?opt=1/mAQI/a10/cC0#13.75/37.81018/-107.65805>

For the most up to date ICE FIRE details click link: <https://inciweb.nwccg.gov/incident/7251/>

Make sure to sign up for Public Alerts to receive emergency notifications on Nixle by texting 81433 to 888-777.

<https://local.nixle.com/zipcode/81433/>

<https://www.facebook.com/sjcoem/>